WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- $1 \quad 1.$ A method for preventing malicious network attacks said
- 2 method comprising:
- 3 receiving a packet from a client computer;
- 4 determining a number of packets received during a time
- 5 interval; and
- 6 rejecting the packet in response to the number of
- 7 packets exceeding a packet limit.
- 1 2. The method as described in claim 1 wherein the client
- 2 computer is identified by a source IP address.
- 1 3. The method as described in claim 1 wherein the
- 2 determining further includes:
- 3 identifying a client data area based on a source IP
- 4 address, the client data area including the
- 5 number of packets received; and
- 6 incrementing the number of packets received.
- 1 4. The method described in claim 1 further comprising:
- 2 determining an action from a plurality of actions
- 3 based on the number of packets received; and
- 4 executing the action.
- 1 5. The method described in claim 1 further comprising:
- 2 receiving a socket request from the client computer;
- 3 determining a number of sockets opened for the client
- 4 computer;
- 5 comparing the number of sockets opened to a socket
- 6 limit; and
- 7 determining whether to allow a socket request based on
- 8 the comparison.

1	6.	The method described in claim 1 further comprising:
2		creating configuration settings, the configuration
3		settings including the packet limit.
1	7.	The method described in claim 6 further comprising:
2		providing a test script, the test script including one
3		or more attack simulations;
4		processing the attack simulations included in the test
5		script;
6		determining whether to change the configuration
7		settings based on the processing; and
8		changing the configuration settings based on the
9		determination.
1	8.	An information handling system comprising:
2		one or more processors;
3		a memory accessible by the processors;
4		one or more nonvolatile storage devices accessible by
5		the processors;
6		a network interface for receiving packets from a
7		computer network; and
8		an packet handling tool to manage packets received
9		from the network interface, the packet handling
10		tool including:
11		means for receiving a packet from a client
12		computer through the network interface;
13		means for determining a number of packets
14		received during a time interval; and
15		means for rejecting the packet in response to the
16		number of packets exceeding a packet limit.

- 1 9. The information handling system as described in claim
 2 8 further comprising:
- means for identifying the client computer by a source
 IP address.
- $1\,$ 10. The information handling system as described in claim
- 8 wherein the means for determining further includes:
- 3 means for identifying a client data area based on a
- 4 source IP address, the client data area including
- 5 the number of packets received; and
- 6 means for incrementing the number of packets received.
- 1 11. The information handling system as described in claim 2 8 further comprising:
- means for receiving a socket request from the client
 computer;
- 5 means for determining a number of sockets opened for
 6 the client computer;
- 7 means for comparing the number of sockets opened to a 8 socket limit; and
- 9 means for determining whether to allow a socket 10 request based on the comparison.
- 1 12. The information handling system as described in claim
- 8 further comprising:
- 3 means for creating configuration settings, the
- 4 configuration settings including the packet
- 5 limit.
- 1 13. The information handling system as described in claim
- 2 12 further comprising:
- 3 means for providing a test script, the test script
- 4 including one or more attack simulations;

5		means for processing the attack simulations included
6		in the test script;
7		means for determining whether to change the
8		configuration settings based on the processing;
9		and
10		means for changing the configuration settings based on
1		the determination.
1	14.	A computer program product for preventing malicious
2		network attacks, said computer program product
3		comprising:
4		means for receiving a packet from a client computer;
5		means for detecting a number of packets received
6		during a time interval; and
7		means for rejecting the packet in response to
8		detecting that the number of packets exceeds a
9		packet limit.
1	15.	The computer program product as described in claim 14
2		wherein the client computer is identified by a source
3		IP address.
1	16.	The computer program product as described in claim 14
2		wherein the determining further includes:
3		means for identifying a client data area based on a
4		source IP address, the client data area including
5		the number of packets received; and
6		means for incrementing the number of packets received.
1	17	The computer program product described in 2 1 1

1 17. The computer program product described in claim 14 further comprising:

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3 means for determining an action from a plurality of 4 actions based on the number of packets received; 5 and 6 means for executing the action. The computer program product described in claim 14 1 18. 2 further comprising: 3 means for receiving a socket request from the client 4 computer; means for determining a number of sockets opened for 5 6 the client computer; means for comparing the number of sockets opened to a 7 8 socket limit; and 9 means for determining whether to allow a socket 10 request based on the comparison. 19. The computer program product described in claim 14 1 further comprising: 2 means for creating configuration settings, the 4 configuration settings including the packet 5 limit. 1 20. The computer program product described in claim 19 2 further comprising: 3 means for providing a test script, the test script 4 including one or more attack simulations; 5 means for processing the attack simulations included 6 in the test script; 7 means for determining whether to change the 8 configuration settings based on the processing; 9 and means for changing the configuration settings based on 10 11 the determination.